



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Salmon-Challis
National Forest
Leadore Ranger District

PO Box 180, 176 N Railroad St.
Leadore, ID 83464
208 768-2500

File Code: 2210/2230

Date: May 26, 2015

Jay J. Smith
PO Box 271
Carmen, ID 83462

Dear Jay,

The following letter will document your meeting with Ingrid Drieling and Mark Bonner April 16th, 2015 and will serve as your Annual Operating Instructions (AOI) on the Fourth of July C&H allotment for the 2015 grazing season. The authorized use for the Fourth of July C&H allotment for cattle with the JS brand will be as follows:

Permitted Use

<u>Allotment</u>	<u>Number/Class</u>	<u>H.M.</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Fourth of July C&H	60 c/c	NTE 181 H.M. Or 92 days	6/1-8/31

Authorized Use for the 2015 Grazing Season

<u>Allotment</u>	<u>Unit</u>	<u>Number/ Class</u>	<u>H.M.</u>	<u>Dates</u>
Fourth of July Creek C&H	Magpie/Cottonwood	60 c/c	83	6/20-7/31
	Main Fourth of July	60 c/c	30	8/1-8/15
	North Fork Tower Creek			REST
	Kriley Gulch			See **

*You hold the BLM permit adjacent to the Fourth of July C&H allotment. You move the cattle onto FS when water runs out on the BLM. The days in the table are subject to change depending on the date cattle leave the BLM.

**Lack of maintenance and proximity to property developments prohibits use of Kriley Gulch Unit without conflict.

Only cattle with the JS brand will be authorized to graze on the Fourth of July C&H allotment. The Annual Operating Instructions are made part of your Term Grazing Permit as per Part 2, Item 8(a) of the General Provisions and Regulations. Situations may develop during the grazing season which require changes to these instructions. Dates listed in the authorized use section may vary based on management needs or range readiness and proper use standards. **If changing unit move dates becomes necessary, or if you cannot comply with some part of these instructions, contact Sara Norman and obtain approval before initiating changes of deviating from these instructions.** Changes can be made based on resource objectives, provided the changes are first approved and documented by an authorized officer. Any extension of use beyond the permitted dates will not be authorized.



Allowable Use

The allowable use standards for the Fourth of July C&H allotment is listed below. It is your responsibility to be aware and recognize utilization and alteration standards. You must move your livestock to the next unit planned, or off the allotment, when those standards have been met. If you need assistance determining utilization levels please contact Sara Norman and she will assist you. **Once cattle are removed from a unit in accordance with use standards and unit scheduling, they are not allowed to return. Please ensure you clean all livestock from your units.** The Forest Service is responsible for monitoring your compliance with allowable use standards. Monitoring typically occurs within two weeks of your unit move date. Please contact your Range Specialists if you would like to join them when monitoring your allotment.

Fourth of July C&H

Key Area Location	Unit Creek	Monitoring Attribute ¹	Use Indicator	Key Species	Trigger
M334	Main 4 th of July Creek Main 4 th of July Creek	Browse Use	50% 30%	Willow Alder	45% 25%
		Greenline stubble	4 in.	Hydric spp	5 in.
		Bank Alteration	20%	n/a	15%
Upland Sites	All Units	Utilization	50%	Upland Grass species	45%
Riparian Areas	All Units	Utilization by Key Species	50%	Riparian grass species	45%

*You mentioned that you would like to develop a plan to place some Long Term Photo monitoring plots on your allotment. Please work with your Rangeland Management Specialist to develop a plan.

Biological Assessment and Opinion requirements

The Biological Opinion for the Fourth of July C&H Allotment laid out the following measures to be implemented to avoid and reduce potential impacts to ESA listed fish. The measures are as follows:

1. A rest rotation grazing system will continue to be used. Resting a unit each year provides benefits to riparian vegetation.
2. The on date will be varied so that livestock will be placed on the allotment at range readiness. This will reduce the potential for bank alteration.
3. Annual use indicators will dictate when livestock are moved between units or off the allotment within the terms of the term grazing permit including moves in response to fish spawning. Annual use indicators will be monitored by Forest Service personnel.
4. Salt and/or mineral blocks will not be placed within one-fourth mile of spring, streams or riparian habitats.
5. Permittees will continue to distribute livestock away from streams and associated riparian areas (ride) at least once every two weeks, reducing potential impacts on spawning areas and designated critical habitat.
6. Fences and water developments have been placed to reduce livestock use on streams and their associated riparian areas. This will continue to reduce impacts on spawning areas and designated critical habitat.

7. Monitoring attributes of woody browse use and streambank alteration will be added to the Main Fourth of July Creek Unit.

Actual Use and Improvement Maintenance Reports

Your accurate documentation of actual use and maintenance is vital to the yearly allotment record. Numbers, move dates, riding and photos are all items used to compile End of Year reports written by your Rangeland Management Specialist. These reports are submitted yearly to the service agencies and published on the web.

Actual use and range improvement maintenance forms have been included for you to complete and return within 30 days of your off date.

Range Improvements

Range improvements listed in Part 3 of your grazing permit **must** be maintained prior to livestock entering the allotment. Contact your Rangeland Management Specialist to discuss materials and supplies for any improvements that are in need of re-construction.

You were provided with an improvement list and map to document the condition of the Range Improvements on your allotment. Please complete the document and return it to your Rangeland Management Specialist.

General Management

The grazing fees for 2015 are the base rate of \$1.69 per head month. Payment of your grazing bill is due prior to your earliest turnout date.

The Salmon-Challis Travel Management Record of Decision was signed December 24, 2009. With the issuance of this decision, all roads and trails designated for motor vehicle use map (MVUM). As detailed in 36 CFR 261.13; 36 CFR 212.51a the prohibitions on motor vehicle use will not apply to motor vehicle use that is specifically authorized under a written authorization issued under Federal law or regulation. **Effective March 20th, 2015 the Salmon Challis National Forest requires a Vehicle Use Permit, signed by the District Ranger, for ALL closed roads or off road travel. This must be displayed in windshield for Trucks or carried on ATV's, UTV's and Motorcycles. Contact your Rangeland Management Specialist to obtain a Vehicle Use Permit for any closed road or off-road travel.** Motor vehicle use maps may be obtained at any Salmon-Challis Ranger District.

Approval of requests for personal convenience and resource protection nonuse is not automatic and the authorized officer should discuss the reasons for the nonuse request with the permittee. Requests for non-use must be done in writing and the approval of a request for non-use must be in writing by the authorized officer. Full or partial permittee convenience nonuse may be approved by the authorized officer for no more than three consecutive years and not more than four years in any ten year period.

Dead livestock must be moved at least 100 yards from water, roads, and trails.

Place salt at least ¼ mile from water sources and in areas lightly grazed to encourage an even distribution of utilization on the range.

Invasive weeds are becoming a serious threat to the welfare of our rangelands. Your assistance is needed to identify new outbreaks of weed populations and to prevent the establishment of weeds on the forest. We have implemented a Noxious Weed Free Hay order on our Forest. This will require any hay that is brought onto the National Forest to be certified free from noxious weeds.

If you spot a wild fire, report it immediately to the Central Idaho Interagency Dispatch Center in Salmon, ID at (208) 756-5157.

If you have any questions regarding any of the allotments for which you have permits, please call Sara Norman at (208) 768-2505 or myself at (208) 756-5247.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jay Winfield

JAY WINFIELD
District Ranger

Encl: Improvement Maintenance and Actual Use Records